The Standards Forum

News on the DOE Technical Standards Program

Volume 8 – Number 3 – December 2000

ISO 9000 at Sandia National Laboratories

By Felipe (Phil) A. Rivera, Quality Program Office, Sandia National Laboratories

Sandia National Laboratories (SNL) Executive Staff involvement with ISO 9000 began in July 1997, when Ken Hanks, manager of the Quality Program Office, attended a DOE Technical Standards Program Workshop and heard a presentation on "Reinventing NASA through ISO 9000."

"It was an eye-opener," Ken says. "NASA is a government organization very similar to Sandia. They are successfully implementing ISO 9000, ensuring a consistent management approach across all work centers. I thought if it could work for NASA, it could work for us." Upon his return, Ken assigned Felipe (Phil) A. Rivera, a member of the Executive Staff, to be the ISO 9000 program manager.

Through his research, Phil learned that an estimated 350,000 organizations of all types in at least 150 countries have developed and deployed quality management systems based on ISO 9000 standards and obtained third party certification for them. Of those organizations, more than 43,000 are in the U.S., of which 59 reside in New Mexico.

Phil Rivera, Sandia National Laboratories

Approximately 70 percent of Sandia's Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) partners are certified to ISO 9000. Phil and Ken visited NASA's White Sands Test Facility to benchmark their ISO 9000 Quality Management Program. This information was used to identify benefits for

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The U. S. Adopts a National Standards Strategy

By Rick Serbu, Manager, DOE Technical Standards Program

The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) approved a National Standards Strategy (NSS) for the United States on September 7, 2000. ANSI, as coordinator of the U.S. standards system, brought together public and private sector interests to develop the NSS. Stephen P. Oksala, director of standards management at Unisys and chairman of the NSS development group, stated, "The purpose of a national strategy is to succeed in a changing world while maintaining the strengths that have served us in the past. We face new challenges in health, safety, consumer issues and protection of the environment as well as in the explosion of world trade and rapid changes in technology and communications. Voluntary, private sector standards are increasingly being used for both market and regulatory purposes. As other regions of the world promote their own technologies and practices, the U.S. must 'step it up' to be competitive."

Federal Interests: The U.S. National Standards Strategy can be used by companies, government, non-governmental organizations, standards developers, and consumers to improve U.S. competitiveness abroad, continue to provide strong support for domestic markets, and address key quality-of-life issues such as the environment. The NSS strategic and tactical initiatives are compatible with the U.S. system and can be used to meet national and individual organizational objectives. Traditional U.S. strengths, such as sectorially based standards, consensus, openness, and transparency, are supported along with speed, relevance, and meeting the needs of public interest constituencies. Implementation initiatives and related activities will continue into the new year and beyond, and support of the strategy and progress on implementation activities will be tracked by ANSI. For DOE, the NSS encourages participation with world and national standards development organizations, and close coordination across DOE and with other Federal

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Plain Words on "Plain Language"

Manager's note . . .

A special note to standards writers and DOE Technical Standards Managers

This year and next year a significant number of DOE Technical Standards are coming up for their five year reviews. Other new standards are being developed to support new initiatives such as Integrated Safety Management (ISM), lessons learned, and procedures. Back on June 1, 1998, President Clinton issued a "Presidential Memorandum on Plain Language." He stated, "The Federal Government's writing must be in plan language." Further on he stated, "Plain language requirements vary from one document to another depending on the intended audience. Plain language documents have logical organization, easy-to-read design features, and use common, everyday words, except for necessary technical terms; 'you' and other pronouns; the active voice; and short sentences. By October 1, 1998, use plain language in all new documents, other than regulations, that explain how to obtain a benefit or service or how to comply with a requirement you administer or enforce. By January 1, 2002, all such documents created prior to October 1, 1998, must also be in plain language." Vice President Gore also provided related guidance in his, "How to Comply with the President's Memo on Plain Language." Additional Plain Language tools are available on the Web at **http://www.nara.gov/fedreg/plainlan .html#top**.

What does this mean for you?

If you are preparing a DOE Technical Standard, revising an existing standard, or commenting on a standard in process, then you should consider Plain Language in your development and assessment. While many of our technical standards are very technical in nature, we can certainly enhance their clarity through improvements in organization, design, and grammar. Let's get started right away! Make your next draft a "Plain Language" draft! Make your next comment a "Plain Language" comment! For an example of a Plain Language document, look at our DOE G 252.1-1, *Technical Standards Program Guide* on the TSP Web Site at **http://tis.eh.doe.gov/techstds/tspofram.html**. I've also developed a briefing entitled, "Plain Language in Government Writing" that outlines the key points of Plain Language and cites the key references. I hope to have this posted on the TSP Web Site in the near future for your reference, or you can contact me for a PowerPoint file. Go to it!

— Rick Serbu

Former TSP Manager Retires

I'm reminded of the time when my Uncle Butler picked himself up off the ground after a somewhat undignified dismount from the Hurricane deck of an ol' bronc named "Midnight." Dusting himself off, Uncle Butler said "I reckon I've had about all this fun I can enjoy." Sure, and that's me, then, hangin' up my spurs. The special bond that forms between comrades-in-arms will cause me to occasionally remember fondly the many good friends that have shared with me the struggles of the DOE Technical Standards Program, and I will wish them continued success. Persevere.

— Regards, Rocky Arnold

…a National Standards Strategy (Continued from Page 1)

agencies. The NSS further enhances the value of using voluntary consensus standards in DOE and DOE contractor activities as part of Integrated Safety Management.

Strategic Initiatives: An electronic version of the NSS can be accessed on-line at **http://web.ansi.org/public/nss.html/**. Here are the 12 strategic initiatives that form the core of the NSS—the role of the government is provided in the expanded text of the NSS:

1. Build on the trend in government to use voluntary consensus standards through existing public/private partnerships.
2. Address the ongoing need for standards in support of health, safety and the environment.
3. Improve the responsiveness of the standards system to the views and needs of consumer interests.
4. Broaden the U.S. standards "umbrella" to include all those organizations that are contributing to the standards system.
5. Work to improve processes internationally to more closely reflect our principles and vision.
6. Work to harmonize the use of standards worldwide as a tool for meeting regulatory requirements.
7. Provide an outreach program to show those outside the U.S. the value of U.S. technology, standards and processes.
8. Improve the standards process within the U.S. to address customer needs for efficiency.
9. Improve the standards process within the U.S. to address customer needs for coherence.
10. Improve communications between various public and private elements of the U.S. standards system.
11. Make the value of standards development both apparent and real by educating public and private sector decision-makers about the value of standards and how to take advantage of the process.
12. Establish a stable funding mechanism for the standardization infrastructure.

ISO 9000 at Sandia…

(Continued from Page 1)

Sandia. They found that NASA, one of Sandia's major customers, utilizes and values the ISO 9000 Quality Management standard. They also identified 49 Sandia organizations that do work for NASA, and several other Sandia organizations and projects were found that are considering ISO 9000 as a model for their quality management system.

"It was clear that a need existed to develop an information network regarding ISO 9000 at Sandia," says Phil. "We designed and deployed a Web site (**http://www.sandia.gov/ISO9000/main.htm**) dedicated to ISO 9000 information." This Web site contains information regarding ISO 9000 initiatives, activities, services, training, and partnerships.

Several other SNL departments are in varying stages of the ISO 9000 journey, including Manufacturing Enterprise (Manufacturing and Processes Services Department), International Safeguards Department, Telecommunication Operations Department, Microelectronics Development Laboratory (MDL), Nuclear Weapon Strategic Business Unit (NWSBU), and the Quality Program Office.

Manufacturing Enterprise

A three-year journey into a new way of doing business was rewarded in May 2000, when Sandia's Manufacturing Enterprise received ISO 9002:1994 certification from the Performance Review Institute.

"It was a long journey that started with a vision of positioning the Manufacturing Enterprise to be fully available to our customers," says Paul McKey, manager of the Manufacturing and Processes Services Department and ISO 9000 management representative. "Accomplishing this required changing our culture from a fragmented research and development operation to a streamlined business unit that could handle a diverse customer base." Guiding the Manufacturing Enterprise's ISO implementation and making sure the journey stayed on track fell to Jane Poppenger.

Paul McKey and Jane Poppenger of Sandia's Manufacturing Enterprise examine a target deployment structure.

Members of the Manufacturing and Processes Services Department became interested in ISO 9000 in late 1996 when they were approached to manufacture containers for use in Russia that had to be built to ISO 9000 standards. They developed procedures for the prototype of the containers meeting the ISO 9000 requirements, but they realized that they might obtain even more international business through their Sandia customers if they were ISO 9002 certified. Additionally, ISO 9002 certification could result in simplified business procedures and cost reductions.

"Before ISO 9000, we had a lot of different processes," says Ron Ward, production coordination/process engineer. "If you asked our people what they did, they could tell you, but they had no documentation. It was all in their heads. We used to have to reinvent the wheel every time we started a new project." Now, the departments operate with a completely documented three-tiered quality management system that includes a quality manual for setting policy, 24 procedures, and work instructions.

ISO 9002 Certification for the Manufacturing Enterprise occurred after a series of steps. It started with educating all Manufacturing Enterprise employees about ISO 9000. Next, the departments reviewed quality systems in place. They discovered that three quality systems were operating with redundancies. These were consolidated into one system.

The 120 people in Manufacturing Enterprise worked in 24 teams to address the ISO 9002 requirements and develop the required procedures for their business. They discovered that many of the requirements were already being met but just weren't documented. The teams conducted several internal audits, opting not to have a voluntary pre-audit done by an outside ISO 9000 auditing group. Instead, they felt they were ready for the third party audit.

The ISO 9002 third party audit occurred January 10–14, 2000. The auditors identified 15 non-compliant areas. The Manufacturing Enterprise staff corrected the non-compliant areas and had a final visit (called a "special surveillance") by the ISO 9002 auditor April 3, 2000. In May 2000, the Manufacturing Enterprise received notice they passed the ISO 9002:1994 "third party" compliance audit.

In addition to documenting procedures, the Manufacturing Enterprise Department developed a simple quality policy statement, one that everyone could agree upon and remember. The policy was eventually reduced to five words, "Excellence In The Customer's Interest." These words are a variation of the challenge initially offered to Sandia in 1948 by President Truman. The challenge stated in part, "to render an exceptional service in the national interest." This quality policy is now posted throughout the facilities where Manufacturing Enterprise Department activities are located, and all the employees are familiar with it.

Tommy Simpson, manager of the Manufacturing Processes Department, says that an interesting phenomenon occurred as the people in Manufacturing Enterprise worked together toward developing and deploying their ISO 9002 system. "At first people saw ISO 9000 as a burden and were skeptical," Tommy says. "But as they documented their procedures and realized this was going to make life better, the light came on and they began to buy into it and own it. We saw a real culture change."

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ISO 9000 at Sandia… (Continued from Previous Page)

International Safeguards Department

"We wanted to improve our internal efficiency," says Don Glidewell, who heads the ISO 9000 efforts in the International Safeguards Department. "We had people taking over large projects with no documented process about how to do it. Every time was a learning curve causing us to start all over. It was very inefficient." They also saw ISO 9001 as a marketing tool—a way to attract more business. The department's customers are from the international community, including the International Atomic Energy Agency and foreign governments, which value the ISO 9000 Quality Management Standards and companies who utilize them.

Telecommunication Operations Department

Mike Sjulin, manager of the Telecommunication Operations Department, says his department is pursing ISO 9000 conformity as a way to improve effectiveness in delivering services and as a framework for doing business. "The ISO 9000 system is about understanding one's business and managing and continually improving that business," he says.

Microelectronics Development Laboratory

The MDL is deploying an ISO 9001 gap analysis to determine how closely the existing management system is aligned with ISO 9001. Once this is established, an MDL management team will convene to discuss any future actions for ISO 9001 implementation.

Nuclear Weapons Strategic Business Unit

The NW SBU Approved Policy is organized in the NW SBU Management System Diagram, which is based on the ISO 9000 Quality Management Process Model. The Policy was developed by the NW SBU Policy Board and is divided into nine domains: 1) Leadership, 2) Management & Finance, 3) Acquire, Develop & Deploy People, 4) Provide Enabling Services, 5) Product Deployment, 6) Support & Evaluation, 7) Research & Development, 8) Technology Maturation, and 9) Customer, Partner, Stakeholder Interactions.

The NW SBU approved policy is based on key principles in order to better serve their customers/partners and prepare to meet the increasing expectations for ISO 9000 compliance.

Quality Program Office

On May 15, 2000, the Program Office hosted a one-day ISO 9000 workshop attended by more than sixty staff members from Sandia and DOE/AL.

In 1999, the Quality Program Office partnered with the New Mexico State Economics Development Department to create the NM 9000 Pilot Program. This program enables small businesses to develop and deploy a management system based on the ISO 9000 Quality Management Standard at a reasonable cost. Upon completion of the NM 9000 program, small businesses are positioned to be more competitive in the local, national, and international markets. The initial cost for each business is based on a percentage of a business gross receipts tax, not to exceed $6,000. The program takes one year to complete. Once a business completes the program, the NM State Economics Development Department will reimburse the small business one-half of the original cost for participating. NM 9000 utilizes certified ISO 9000 trainers and auditors and works in a consortium environment with the small business to develop their ISO 9000-based Quality Management Systems.

In 2000, the first year of existence for the NM 9000 Pilot Program, 23 small businesses started the program. As of October 2000, 19 of those businesses have completed the program. One business has received ISO 9000 certification and 18 businesses are awaiting a "third party" compliance audit. NM 9000 is currently recruiting small businesses for the next program cycle, which begins in January 2001.

It is anticipated that Sandia's use of ISO 9000 will grow when ISO publishes the new ISO 9001:2000 Quality Management Standard.

Editor Retires

Soon after somewhat reluctantly joining the Technical Standards Program effort at ORNL, this materials R&D engineer-turned-standards-worker flipped to a page on his *The Far Side*© desk calendar that graphically expressed his mood. The calendar pictured a circus dog riding a unicycle on a tightrope while juggling several balls, balancing a jar on his head, spinning a hula-hoop around his middle, and holding a cat in his mouth. The caption read something like, "High above the anxious crowd, Rex struggled to remain focused…but he couldn't shake one disturbing thought—*I am an old dog, and this is a new trick.*"

The intervening six years have completely altered my attitude toward and greatly increased my appreciation for the role of standards and the people that diligently strive to write, maintain, and promote these all-important documents that contribute so much to the well being and safety of us all. I thank God for the opportunity to have given my small part to the effort, and wish you all the best as you continue your standards work.

— Marty Marchbanks

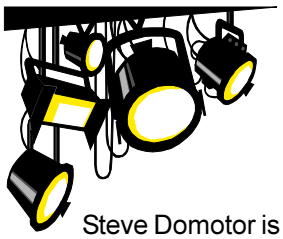
Standards *Forum*

Editor ..... Marty Marchbanks

Distribution: ORNL and DOE's ES&H Technical Information Services posts *The Standards Forum* quarterly for the DOE Technical Standards Program at **http://tis.eh.doe.gov/techstds/**. Our e-mail and surface mail distribution lists are being maintained so that we can send you special notices concerning technical standards and the TSP. Interested readers may send their updated addresses to Amy Bush, ORNL, 865-576-2395, Fax 865-574-0382, **bushar@ornl.gov**.

Comments: If you have any questions or comments concerning TSP operations, please contact Rick Serbu, EH-53, 301-903-2856, **Richard.Serbu @eh.doe.gov**. If you have any questions or comments on DOE standards projects, please call Don Williams, ORNL, 865-574-8710, **williamsdljr@ornl.gov**.

Technical Standards Manager Spotlight



Stephen L. Domotor

Chair, DOE Biota Dose Assessment Committee

DOE Office of Environmental Policy and Guidance

Steve Domotor is a senior scientist for DOE's Office of Environmental Policy and Guidance, Air, Water and Radiation Division (EH-412). His work includes radiation dose and risk assessment, and the development of air, water and radiation environmental protection policy, standards, and guidance. Steve has been providing the leadership for DOE's initiative to develop requirements and guidance for protection of the environment (biota and ecosystems) from the effects of ionizing radiation. DOE is the only federal agency currently developing evaluation methodologies for existing and recommended biota dose limits. Steve chairs the Department's Biota Dose Assessment Committee (BDAC), a DOE Technical Standards Program (TSP) topical committee.

An Example of the Need for DOE Standardized Methods and Guidance

There is growing international interest in the development of a regulatory framework (e.g., dose standards, methods, and guidance) for demonstrating protection of the environment (biota and ecosystems) from the effects of ionizing radiation. Nationally and internationally, no standardized methods have been adopted for evaluating radiation doses and demonstrating protection of plants and animals.

DOE currently has in place a dose limit for protection of aquatic organisms, and has considered setting formal limits for terrestrial biota. A key theme in comments provided by DOE sites and the public is the need for standardized, cost-effective guidance for compliance with these dose limits. Users want a multi-tiered approach that includes screening, guidance on biota monitoring, and a generic method to promote consistency—while retaining some flexibility for site-specific data and considerations.

The Value of Topical Committees in the Preparation of Technical Standards

The DOE topical committee system has provided the framework needed for EH-412's development of biota dose evaluation methods. The currently proposed DOE Technical Standard, A Graded Approach for Evaluating Radiation Doses to Aquatic and Terrestrial Biota, was developed through the BDAC using a consensus-based process that included both "developers" and "users." The interdisciplinary BDAC team featured expertise in health physics, ecology, radioecology, environmental monitoring, and risk assessment. This collective knowledge was essential for developing the standard.

"Topical Committees provide forums for maintaining DOE's corporate memory, pooling technical expertise from across the complex, and sharing lessons-learned in technical areas that are important—and often unique—to DOE programs and needs," Steve told *The Standards Forum*. "They support the Technical Standards Program and the preparation of DOE Technical Standards by bringing their 'expert-based' knowledge into a 'standards-based' system," he added.

> ***"Topical Committees provide forums for maintaining DOE's corporate memory, pooling technical expertise from across the complex, and sharing lessons-learned in technical areas that are important—and often unique—to DOE programs and needs. They support the Technical Standards Program and the preparation of DOE Technical Standards by bringing their 'expert-based' knowledge into a 'standards-based' system."***
>
> ***—Steve Domotor***

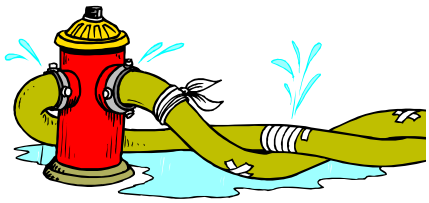
The standard is receiving interest from other federal agencies, and from the International Atomic Energy Agency and its member countries. The standard (approved for interim use) and the RAD-BCG Calculator (an electronic tool for conducting an evaluation) can be downloaded from the BDAC Web Site, **http://homer.ornl.gov/oepa/public/bdac** or from the DOE-TSP Web Site, **http://tis.eh.doe.gov/techstds**. A final Technical Standard is expected in March 2001.

A Personal Note

Steve has held a variety of positions in DOE since arriving in 1990. Prior to DOE, Steve was an environmental radiochemist and director of the Radiation Chemistry–Radioecology Laboratory for the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. Steve holds a B.S. degree in Biology from St. Mary's College of Maryland, and an M.S. degree in Marine-Estuarine-Environmental Science from the University of Maryland, where he was awarded a Chesapeake Biological Laboratory research fellowship. He is currently a senior fellow in the Council for Excellence in Government.

Steve enjoys spending time with his wife (Diana) and their two children (Rachel, age 10 and Alec, age 8). Favorite activities include spending time at the beach, camping, and downtime around the house and in the yard.

Quality Problems?



Whom Do You Call?

By Ken Gidlow, Quality Programs Manager, DynMcDermott Petroleum Operations Company, DOE Strategic Petroleum Reserve

If you are a Department of Energy (DOE) or contractor employee with a quality assurance question or problem, whom do you call? Finding someone in the DOE National Telephone Directory Organizational Indexes is difficult as less than one percent of the listed Department Headquarters, field, or laboratory top-level personnel have the word "quality" in their titles.

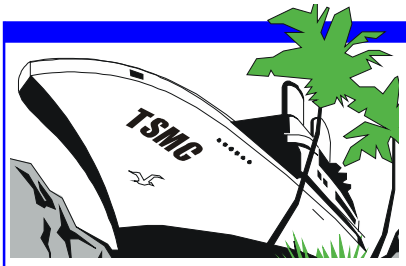
Two people you can call are Gustave (Bud) Danielson, Jr., Office of Nuclear Safety Policy and Standards, Office of Environment, Safety, and Health, and Larry D. Vaughan, Office of Safety, Health, and Security, Office of Environmental Management. Both Danielson and Vaughan lead active volunteer networks of approximately 100 DOE and contractor quality managers from nearly all Department facilities and divisions.

Danielson is the Department sponsor of the Quality and Safety Management Special Interest Group (QSM SIG) and QA Topical Standards Committee (TOPCOMM). He is also the author of the DOE Quality Assurance (QA) Order 414.1A, the synonymous 10CFR830.120 QA Rule, and the implementing guides. Vaughan, the QA Advisor for the Office of Environmental Management, is the current chairperson of the DOE Quality Assurance Working Group (QAWG).

Since 1988, QSM SIG members have assisted in revising and resolving comments on the QA Orders and various Department Guides, provided QA training, and served as a forum for quality assurance discussions. Examples include the graded-approach to implementing the QA Order/Rule, assessment guidance, and Price Anderson coordinators' topics. The TOPCOMM helps to develop the Department's position on international and national standards.

Since 1996, the QAWG has provided leadership for the Department's quality assurance activities and helped to resolve and coordinate crosscutting issues. For example, the QAWG resolved a wide range of quality product problems and legacy issues regarding the presence of suspect/counterfeit items in Department facilities that could pose a threat to worker safety and public health. The group sponsors suspect/counterfeit parts training. In 1999, DOE contractors reported a cost avoidance of over $4 million dollars as a result of the QAWG lessons learned sharing activities with the Government Industry Data Exchange Program (GIDEP).

The two groups communicate and support each other's activities. The charters, membership lists, activities, meeting minutes/notices, and related quality links for both groups are readily accessible at **http://www.orau.gov/qsm** and **http://twilight.saic.com/qawg**. Please call Bud Danielson at 301-903-2954 or Larry Vaughan at 202-586-2523 if you need more information.



Welcome Aboard !

The Technical Standards Managers (TSMs) are the backbone of the DOE Technical Standards Program! These knowledgeable individuals serve as their organization's standards point of contact and contribute to the coordination of Department-wide TSP activities. A great deal of their work time is spent in assuring that standards activities take place in a manner that will promote safe, economical, and efficient operations locally and across the DOE complex.

With nearly 70 active and mobile people involved in TSM activities, it can be a daunting task just to keep up with the retirements and reassignments affecting the TSM roster. This "Welcome Aboard" feature is designed to introduce you to the new TSMs and help you keep abreast of the rapidly changing makeup of the Technical Standards Managers' Committee (TSMC).

The TSMC welcomes the following recently added members.

Brenda G. Mills
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Joe Fitzgerald—New DAS for the TSP

Joseph E. Fitzgerald, Jr., EH-5 Deputy Assistant Secretary (DAS) for Safety and Health in the Department of Energy's Office of Environment, Safety and Health (EH), became the cognizant DAS for the DOE Technical Standards Program (TSP), effective July 2, 2000. Addressing the attendees to the May 9, 2000, Technical Standards Managers' Committee meeting held at the Forrestal Building, Mr. Fitzgerald noted the extensive technical standards activities already in EH-5, and stressed the importance of standards development and standards services to DOE. Recognizing the need for active Technical Standards Managers and Topical Committees, he noted the excellent fit for the TSP policy role in the EH organization. Mr. Fitzgerald also recognized the role of the TSP's technical services in standards development and standards information management, as well as in outreach and communications with Standards Development Organizations, other Federal agencies, and industry. He stressed that the TSP will continue to provide the principal means for DOE 's implementation of Federal technical standards requirements and commitments.

Joe Fitzgerald

Mr. Fitzgerald has served as the DAS for Safety and Health since 1991. Prior to this position, he was Director of the Performance Assessment Division of the Office of Nuclear Safety. Prior to joining the Department of Energy, he worked for the Environmental Protection Agency, where he was a commissioned officer in the U.S. Public Health Service. Mr. Fitzgerald holds a B.S. in environmental engineering and an M.S. in public health and environmental engineering from Tufts University, and an M.P.H. in radiological health protection from the University of Minnesota.

Continuous Improvement—Enhancing The Technical Standards Program Infrastructure

By Rick Serbu, Manager, DOE Technical Standards Program

One of the ways the Office of Nuclear and Facility Safety Policy (EH-53) successfully works with and routinely communicates with other Headquarters, Field, and contractor organizations is through our DOE Technical Standards Program (TSP) infrastructure. This includes our Technical Standards Managers, Topical Committees (TCs), standards developers, publications, Web Site, and information/data management systems, to name some of the features. The TSP is essentially an interactive service organization with the lead role for DOE in technical standards development. The development, review, application, and interpretation of technical standards and voluntary consensus standards provide the basis for work management across DOE. The TSP supports these areas and also functions to help you carry out your technical responsibilities.

The Impact of the Recent EH Reorganization

With the recent reorganization of the Office of Environment, Safety, and Health (EH), several individuals were reassigned to EH-53 and now have significant roles in the DOE Technical Standards Program. Jim Bisker, Leo Derderian, Pat Finn, Glenn Florczak, Gerald Meyers, and Pat Tran are all new to our TSP program development and technical services role and can provide additional direct support to TSP activities, primarily in DOE Topical Committee operations and standards development efforts. Here are some highlights of the areas where our new EH-53 members can provide you with technical services and assist in TSP-related activities:

- Jim Bisker (301-903-6542, **Jim.Bisker@hq.doe.gov**) – Chair of the Fire Protection TC.
- Leo Derderian (301-903-4327, **Leo.Derderian@hq.doe.gov**) - HEPA Filter technical issues and the HEPA Filter TC representative.
- Pat Finn (301-903-9876, **Pat.Fin@ha.doe.gov**) – Chair of the Construction Safety TC and Hoisting and Rigging Technical Advisory Committee.
- Glen Florczak (301-903-9877, **Glenn.Florczak@hq.doe.gov**) – TSP Coordinator for integration of the Technical Qualification Program's Technical Qualification Standards into the DOE TSP, also assists Pat Finn.
- Gerald Meyers (301-903-3190, **Gerald.Meyers@hq.doe.gov**) – Pressure System Safety TC and Explosives Safety.
- Pat Tran (301-903-5638, **Pat.Tran@hq.doe.gov**) – Electrical Safety and Firearms Safety activities.

DOE Role in TSP Increasing—A Resource to be Tapped

With declining budgets and less reliance on contractors, more of the TSP is directly managed by "Feds" from EH-53 who are matrixed into the TSP. We are happy to have the additional technical expertise available to assist our customers in standards development and standards use. We hope that you will contact our new associates if you have questions on technical issues or are interested in participating in their TC and subject matter activities.

Standards Actions

Technical Standards Program Document Status (2000-11-30)

Activity Summary

In Conversion – 4

In Preparation – 39

Out for Comment – 15

Published this Month – 0

FY 2000 5-year Review

Revisions in Progress – 5

Reaffirmations in Progress – 2

Reaffirmations Completed – 1

Supersedures in Progress – 6

Cancellations Pending – 7

Cancellations in Progress – 0

Cancellations Completed – 1

No Current Action – 34

DOE Technical Standards Project Initiated

The following DOE Technical Standards project was recently initiated.

If you have any questions or are interested in participating in the development of this standard, please contact the person listed below. Complete listings of all DOE Technical Standards projects and their status are given in the Technical Standards Program (TSP) Web Site, **http://tis.eh.doe.gov/techstds/**. To access these lists from the home page, click on "DOE Technical Standards," then click on "Projects" in the left-hand frame to show the links to the project lists.

- *Work Control and Change Control Processes at DOE Hazard Category 2 and 3 Nuclear Facilities*, Project Number CMAN-0002, Richard A. (Rick) Kendall, DP-45, 301-903-3102, Fax 301-903-8754, **Rick.Kendall@dp.doe.gov**.

DOE Technical Standard Recently Sent for Coordination

The following draft DOE Technical Standard was recently distributed for coordination:

The appropriate Technical Standards Managers (TSMs) will provide selected reviewers with copies for comment. The full text of this document is available on the TSP Web Site at **http://tis.eh.doe.gov/techstds/**. If you wish to comment on this document, please notify your TSM.

- *Radiological Assessor Training*, Project Number TRNG-0015, Peter O'Connell, EH-52, 301-903-5641, Fax 301-903-7773, **Peter.O'Connell@eh.doe.gov**. Comments are due February 2, 2001.

DOE Technical Standards Recently Published

DOE employees and DOE contractors may obtain copies from the ES&H Technical Information Services, U.S. Department of Energy; 1-800-473-4375, Fax 301-903-9823.

Subcontractors and the general public may obtain copies from the U.S. Department of Commerce, Technology Administration, National Technical Information Service, Springfield, Virginia 22161; 703-605-6000, 703-605-6900.

Copies of DOE Technical Standards (i.e., DOE Standards, Specifications, Handbooks, and Technical Standards Lists) are also available on the TSP Web Site at **http://tis.eh.doe.gov/techstds/**.

DOE Technical Standard Proposed for Reaffirmation

The following DOE Technical Standard has been proposed for reaffirmation:

- DOE-HDBK-3010-94, Change Notice 1, *Recommended Values and Technical Basis for Airborne Release Fractions, Airborne Release Rates, and Respirable Fractions at Nonreactor Nuclear Facilities*, December 1994 / Change Notice 1 added March 2000.

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Standards Actions (Continued from Previous Page)

This document is currently being reevaluated under the 5-year "Periodic Document Review" (Sunset Review) provision of the Technical Standards Program Procedures. The Preparing Activity (The Office of Defense Programs, DP-45) believes that the document is technically valid in its present version and recommends that it be reaffirmed.

A review period ending January 10, 2001, has been set to provide the opportunity for interested persons to comment on this reaffirmation proposal. All comments and questions should be routed through your site Technical Standards Manager, who will relay your responses to M. Alam Mozumder, DP-45, 301-903-4287, **Mohammad.Mozumder@ns.doe.gov**.

Non-Government Standards

American National Standards Institute

The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) publishes coordination activities of non-Government standards (NGS) bi-weekly in *ANSI Standards Action.* Recent electronic copies (no hardcopies are produced) are available on the ANSI Web site at **http://web.ansi.org/rooms/room_14/**. Electronic back copies are available to ANSI members only. For information on site membership, ask your local ANSI contact. For information on individual or group ANSI membership, call Susan Bose at 212-642-4948, e-mail **sbose@ansi.org**.

Hardcopy versions of published non-Government standards listed in this section may be obtained from Global Engineering Documents, 15 Inverness Way East, Englewood, Colorado, 80112, 800-854-7179, Fax 303-397-2740, **global@ihs.com**, **http://global.ihs.com**. Electronic delivery of selected documents is available through ANSI at **http://webstore.ansi.org**. Copies of the listed draft standards and the procedure for commenting on the same may be obtained by contacting the standards developing organization.

The following listings are extracted from *ANSI Standards Action* and are representative of NGS development activities that may be relevant to DOE operations. Refer to *ANSI Standards Action* for a more extensive listing of changes and new publications, standards developing organizations, and additional information about submitting comments. Additional information on ANSI activities and available non-Government standards can be found on the ANSI Web site, **http://www.ansi.org**, or through the National Standards System Network, **http://www.nssn.org**.

The following American National Standards are currently in coordination (comment due dates follow each entry)**:**

- ANS 51.1, *Nuclear Safety Design Criteria for Light Water Reactors* (new standard) - January 16, 2001.
- ANSI/ASTM Z8310Z, *Test Method for Thermal Stability of Organic Heat Transfer Fluids* (new standard) - January 16, 2001.
- API RP 2016, *Recommended Practice for Entering and Cleaning Petroleum Storage Tanks* (new standard) - January 16, 2001.
- API Std. 600/ISO 10434 mod., *Bolted Bonnet Steel Gate Valves for Petroleum and Natural Gas Industries* (new standard) - January 16, 2001.
- ASME B30.5a, *Mobile and Locomotive Cranes* (supplement to ANSI/ASME B30.5-2000) - January 16, 2001.
- ASME PTC 25-1994, *Pressure Relief Devices* (revision of ANSI/ASME PTC 25-1994) - January 16, 2001.
- ASTM D1042, *Test Method for Linear Dimensional Changes of Plastics Under Accelerated Service Conditions* (new standard) - January 16, 2001.
- EIA 364-62 (SP-4896), *Terminal Strength Test Procedure for Electrical Connectors* (new standard) - January 16, 2001.
- EIMA 99-A, *Exterior Insulation and Finish Systems (EIFS)* (new standard) - January 16, 2001.
- FMRC FM 3260, *Radiant Energy-Sensing Fire Detectors for Automatic Fire Alarm Signaling* (new standard) - January 16, 2001.
- IEC C78.1195-2001, *Double-Capped Fluorescent Lamps - Safety Specifications* (new standard) - January 16, 2001.
- UL 242, *Standard for Safety for Nonmetallic Containers for Waste Paper* (revision of ANSI/UL 242-1994) - December 18, 2000.
- Z83.4a, *Direct Gas-Fired Make-Up Air Heaters* (supplement to ANSI Z83.4-1999) (same as CGA 3.7a) (supplement to ANSI Z83.4a-1998) - January 16, 2001.

The following American National Standards have been approved for publication: (Publication is to take place within six months following the date shown. Publication status and ordering information may be obtained from ANSI's Customer Service at 212-642-4900.)

- ANSI/ASME A112.6.2-2000, *Framing-Affixed Supports for off-the-Floor Water Closets with Concealed Tanks* (new standard) - October 18, 2000.
- ANSI/ASME MFC-10M-2000, *Method for Establishing Installation Effects on Flowmeters* (revision of ANSI/ASME MFC-10M-1994) - October 23, 2000.
- ANSI/ASTM A1012-00, *Specification for Seamless and Welded Ferritic, Austenitic and Duplex Alloy Steel Condenser and Heat Exchanger Tubes with Integral Fins* (new standard) - September 10, 2000.
- ANSI/ASTM D348-00, *Test Methods for Rigid Tubes Used for Electrical Insulation* (new standard) - October 10, 2000.
- ANSI/ASTM D6208-00, *Test Method for Repassivation Potential of Aluminum and its Alloys by Galvanostatic Measurement* (new standard) - October 24, 2000.
- ANSI/ASTM D6299-00, *Practice for Applying Statistical Quality Assurance Techniques to Evaluate Analytical Measurement System Performance* (revision of ANSI/ASTM D6299-99) - October 24, 2000.

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Standards Actions (Continued from Previous Page)

- ANSI/ASTM D6546-00, *Test Methods and Suggested Limits for Determining the Compatibility of Elastomer Seals for Industrial Hydraulic Fluid Applications* (new standard) - October 24, 2000.
- ANSI/ASTM D6547-00, *Test Method for Corrosiveness of a Lubricating Fluid to a Bi-Metallic Couple* (new standard) - October 24, 2000.
- ANSI/ASTM E736-00, *Test Method for Cohesion/Adhesion of Sprayed Fire-Resistive Materials Applied to Structural Members* (revision of ANSI/ASTM E736-92) - October 10, 2000.
- ANSI/ASTM E1740-00, *Test Method for Determining the Heat Release Rate and Other Fire-Test-Response Characteristics of Wallcovering Composites Using a Cone Calorimeter* (new standard) - October 10, 2000.
- ANSI/ASTM E1745-00, *Specification for Plastic Water Vapor Retarders Used in Contact with Soil or Granular Fill Under Concrete Slabs* (new standard) - October 24, 2000.
- ANSI/ASTM E1886-00, *Test Method for Performance of Exterior Windows, Curtain Walls, Doors and Storm Shutters Impacted by Missile(s) and Exposed to Cyclic Pressure Differentials* (new standard) - October 24, 2000.
- ANSI/ASTM E1895-00, *Guide for Determining Uses and Limitations of Deterministic Fire Models* (new standard) - October 24, 2000.
- ANSI/ASTM F1731-00, *Practice for Body Measurements and Sizing of Fire and Rescue Services Uniforms and Other Thermal Hazard* (new standard) - October 24, 2000.
- ANSI/ASTM F1939-00, *Test Method for Radiant Protective Performance of Flame Resistant Clothing Materials* (new standard) - October 24, 2000.
- ANSI/ASTM F2018-00, *Test Method for Time-to-Failure of Plastics Using Plane Strain Tensile Specimens* (new standard) - October 24, 2000.
- ANSI/ASTM F2061-00, *Practice for Chemical Protective Clothing Care and Maintenance Instructions* (new standard) - October 10, 2000.

The following international standards are currently in coordination (comment due dates follow each entry)**:**

- EN 50018:200X/prAA, *Electrical apparatus for potentially explosive atmospheres - Flameproof enclosure 'd'* - February 9, 2001.
- HD 626 S1:1996/prA2, *Overhead distribution cables of rated voltage Uo/U(Um): 0,6/1 (1,2) kV* - February 9, 2001.
- ISO/DIS 15708-1, *Non-destructive testing - Radiation methods -Computed tomography - Part 1: Principles* - January 25, 2001.
- ISO/DIS 15767, *Workplace atmospheres - Controlling and characterizing errors in weighing collected aerosols* - February 8, 2001.
- prEN 61508-1, *Functional safety of electrical/electronic/programmable electronic safety-related systems - Part 1: General requirements* (IEC 61508-1:1998 + corrigendum 1999) - February 9, 2001.

The following newly published international standards are available:

- IEC 60168-am2-2000*, Tests on indoor and outdoor post insulators of ceramic material or glass for systems with nominal voltages greater than 1000 V.*
- EC 60417-1-2000*, Graphical symbols for use on equipment - Part 1: Overview and application.*
- ISO 975:2000*, Brown coals and lignites - Determination of yield of benzene-soluble extract - Semi-automatic method.*
- ISO 1087-1:2000*, Terminology work - Vocabulary - Part 1: Theory and application.*
- ISO 13847:2000*, Petroleum and natural gas industries - Pipeline transportation systems - Welding of pipelines.*
- ISO 14606:2000*, Surface chemical analysis - Sputter depth profiling - Optimization using layered systems as reference materials.*

American National Standards Projects Initiated

The following is a list of proposed new American National Standards or revisions to existing American National Standards submitted to ANSI by accredited standards developers. DOE employees or contractors interested in participating in these activities should contact the appropriate standards developing organization. DOE-TSL-4 lists the DOE representatives on NGS committees. If no DOE representative is listed, contact the TSPO for information on participating in NGS activities.

American Petroleum Institute
Office: 1220 L Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20005
Fax: 202-962-4797
Contact: Mike Spanhel, **spanhel@api.org**

- API Spec 5CT, Seventh Edition/ISO 11960:2001, *Specification for Casing and Tubing* (new standard)

The Safety Equipment Association
Office: 1901 North Moore Street, Suite 808
Arlington, VA 22209
Fax: 703-525-2148
Contact: Cristine Fargo, **czfargo@safetycentral.org**

- ISEA 110, *Air-Purifying Respiratory Protective Escape Devices* (new standard)

American Society for Testing and Materials

Standards activities of the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) are published monthly in ASTM *Standardization News.* Orders for subscriptions or single copies of ASTM *Standardization News* may be submitted to ASTM, Subscription Dept.-SN, 100 Barr Harbor Drive, West Conshohocken,

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Standards Actions (Continued from Previous Page)

Pennsylvania 19428-2959. For information regarding ASTM membership, contact the Membership Services Department at 610-832-9691 (Fax 610-832-9667). ASTM publications may be ordered from the ASTM Customer Services Department at 610-832-9585 (Fax 610-832-9555). Comments on listed draft standards may be submitted by contacting the ASTM Standards Coordination Department at the above address. Questions may be addressed to the Technical Committee Operations Division at 610-832-9672 (Fax 610-832-9666). Additional information on ASTM activities is available on the ASTM Web site (**http://www.astm.org**). The following listings are extracted from ASTM *Standardization News* and are representative of NGS development activities that may be relevant to DOE operations.

The following ASTM standards are currently in coordination (the due date for all items is December 10, 2000)**:**

- C 78-94, *Test Method for Flexural Strength of Concrete (Using Simple Beam with Third-Point Loading)* (revised standard).
- C 717-00, *Terminology of Building Seals and Sealants* (revised standard).
- D 4276-5, *Practice for Confined Area Entry* (revised standard).
- E 1316-00, *Terminology for Nondestructive Examinations* (revised standard).
- E 2074-00, *Test Method for Fire Tests of Door Assemblies, Including Positive Pressure Testing of Side Hinged and Pivoted Swinging Door* (revised standard).
- F 1060-87(1993), *Test Method for Thermal Protective Performance of Materials for Protective Clothing for Hot Surface Contact* (revised standard).
- New Standard, *Practice for Performance Testing of Process Analyzers for Aromatic Hydrocarbon Materials* (Ref. Z8180Z).
- New Standard, *Practice for Durability of Building Construction Sealants as Determined by Laboratory Accelerated Weathering Procedure* (Ref. Z8400Z).
- New Standard, *Test Method for Measuring Viscosity at High Shear Rate by Tapered Bearing Simulator Viscometer at 100 ºC* (Ref. Z8634Z).
- New Standard, *Practice for Laboratory Bias Detection Using a Single Test Result from a Standard Material* (Ref. Z8636Z).

The following newly published standards are available from ASTM:

- C 490-00, *Practice for Use of Apparatus for the Determination of Length Change of Hardened Cement Paste, Mortar, and Concrete* (revised standard).
- C 779-00, *Test Method for Abrasion Resistance of Horizontal Concrete Surfaces* (revised standard).
- C 1471-00, *Guide for the Use of High Solids Content Cold Liquid-Applied Elastomeric Waterproofing Membrane on Vertical Surfaces* (new standard).
- C 1477-00, *Test Method for Isotopic Abundance Analysis of Uranium Hexafluoride by Multi-Collector, Inductively Coupled Plasma-Mass Spectrometry* (new standard).
- D 6495-99, *Guide for Acceptance Testing Requirements for Geosynthetic Clay Liners* (new standard).
- D 6538-00, *Guide for Sampling Wastewater With Automatic Samplers* (new standard).
- D 6546-00, *Test Methods for and Suggested Limits for Determining Compatibility of Elastomer Seals for Industrial Hydraulic Fluid Applications* (new standard).
- E 2059-00a, *Practice for Application and Analysis of Nuclear Research Emulsions for Fast Neutron Dosimetry* (revised standard).
- E 2099-00, *Practice for the Specification and Evaluation of Pre-Construction Laboratory Mockups of Exterior Wall Systems* (new standard).
- F 1506-00, *Performance Specification for Flame Resistant Textile Materials for Wearing Apparel for Use by Electrical Workers Exposed to Momentary Electric Arc and Related Thermal Hazards* (revised standard).
- F 2018-00, *Test Method for Time-to-Failure of Plastics Using Plane Strain Tensile Specimens* (new standard).
- F 2019-00, *Practice for Rehabilitation of Existing Pipelines and Conduits by the Pulled in Place Installation of Glass Reinforced Plastic (Grp) Cured-In-Place Thermosetting Resin Pipe (CIPP)* (new standard).

Comments, Questions, and Addresses

Comments: If you have any questions or comments, please contact Rick Serbu, EH-53, Manager, DOE Technical Standards Program Office (TSPO), 301-903-2856, Fax 301-903-6172, **Richard.Serbu@eh.doe.gov**.

Addresses: *Standards Actions* and *The Standards Forum* are now being published electronically and will be available only via your access to the TSP Web Site (**http://tis.eh.doe.gov/techstds/**). However, we would like to maintain both our e-mail and surface mail distribution lists so that we can send you special notices concerning technical standards and the DOE Technical Standards Program. Although we may currently have your surface mail address, we have e-mail addresses for only a few of you. We are requesting that those of you who are interested in receiving special notices please contact Marty Marchbanks, ORNL, 865-241-3658, Fax 865-574-0382, **marchbanksmf@ornl.gov,** and give him your updated e-mail and surface mail addresses.

Technical Standards Activities: The TSPO would like to be kept informed of the status of technical standards that are being prepared or coordinated for DOE. Please provide this information to the TSPO at 865-576-2395, **bushar@ornl.gov**.

Topical Committee Developments

The Charter for the Air Cleaning and HEPA Filter Topical Committee has been signed, bringing the number of registered DOE Topical Committees to 25. The Committee is currently in the process of forming an interim steering committee that will chart the future organization and its initial activities.

The Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB) has identified, in a report entitled *Quality Assurance for Safety-Related Software at Department of Energy Defense Nuclear Facilities*, deficiencies in software quality assurance (SQA) used to make safety-related design decisions and to control safety-related systems. SQA is defined as a process for the systematic development, testing, documentation, maintenance, and execution of software. The DNFSB believes problems with code execution are symptomatic of underlying deficiencies in the infrastructure supporting SQA at DOE that have a direct debilitating effect on safety activities in DOE. The DNFSB believes that little progress has been made toward addressing these problems because no component of senior DOE management has accepted responsibility for the function of SQA.

The Technical Standards Program Office believes that formation of an Instrumentation and Control (I&C) and Verification and Validation (V&V) Topical Committee would be an appropriate and proactive way to address the DNSFB's concerns. We need an I&C professional to step forward to lead the effort to organize such a group. Norm Schwartz is prepared to offer the most comprehensive support possible to assist the formation of such a topical committee. Should such an I&C subject matter expert wish to step forward with a prospective list of like-minded experts to help set up this particular topical committee, please contact Norm Schwartz, 301-903-2996, **Norm.Schwartz@eh.doe.gov**, or Richard Serbu, 301-903-2856, **Richard.Serbu@eh.doe.gov**. Of course, the invitation is still open for individuals in any other appropriate field to develop a group of subject matter experts that would like to affiliate with the TSP as a topical committee.

Performance-Based Management Special Interest Group

New Documents on the PBM SIG Web Site

*By Will Artley, Coordinator, Performance-Based Management SIG (901-373-7493; **artleyw@orau.gov**).*

The Performance-Based Management Special Interest Group (PBM SIG) has posted two new documents on its Web site (**http://www.orau.gov/pbm**)

The first document is a new edition of Volume 3, *Establishing Accountability For Performance*, of the PBM SIG's Performance-Based Management Handbook. This document attempts applicability to both the individual and group as well as the public and private sectors. All attempts have been made to produce a useful, understandable document on the subject.

The second document is entitled *A Guide to Strategically Planning Training and Measuring Results*, by the U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM). Sections include an Executive Overview, "Making a Strategic Investment in Training," "Step 1: Analyze Established Goals to Identify Training Requirements;" "Step 2: Develop Training Strategies to Achieve Goals;" "Step 3: Integrate Training Into Strategic Plans;" and "Step 4: Evaluate Training Goal Accomplishments." One objective is to help agencies meet a January 1999 Executive Order directing agencies to set annual goals and performance measures for training and to identify the resources needed to meet those goals. The guide is a primer to help agencies "begin to create long-term workforce investment strategies and plans" for FY 2002 budgets and beyond.

Federal Groups Cooperate in Annual Meetings

*By Don Ragland, Sandia National Laboratories-Albuquerque (SNLA) (505-845-9623, **dragla@sandia.gov**)*

The Department of Energy (DOE) Topical Committees on Accreditation and Metrology and the DOE Standards Lab Managers Meeting supporting the Nuclear Weapons Complex will conduct combined annual meetings at the Y-12 National Securities Complex (Y-12) in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, March 20–22, 2001. The Oak Ridge Metrology Center (Beverly Adams, contact info below) will host the meeting.

This is an opportunity to identify areas of common interests among DOE, Department of Defense (DoD), and related agencies. The agenda will include speakers from the National Cooperation for Laboratory Accreditation (NACLA), National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), DoD, Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory (INEEL), SNLA, and Y-12. Speakers will include Don Heirman, current President of NACLA, John Ball, U.S. Army Metrology Center/Redstone Arsenal, and Harry Moody, INEEL.

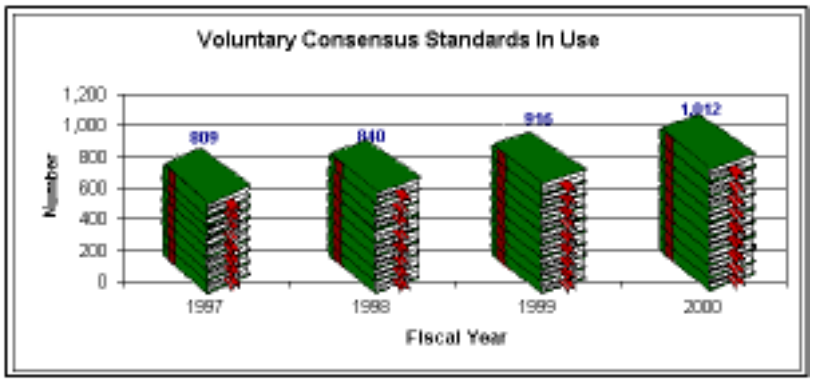
In addition, technical presentations *on* "Gear Metrology," "Automated Metrology Processes," and "Multi-Junction Thermal Voltage Converters" will be made by representatives from the Y-12 Complex and Sandia. Included in the 2001 agenda is a general analysis by all attendees regarding issues surrounding the transition from ANSI/NCSL Z540-1, *Calibration Laboratories and Measuring and Test Equipment*, to the new international standard ISO 17025. A "round-table" discussion on current activities/changes at the represented labs is also scheduled.

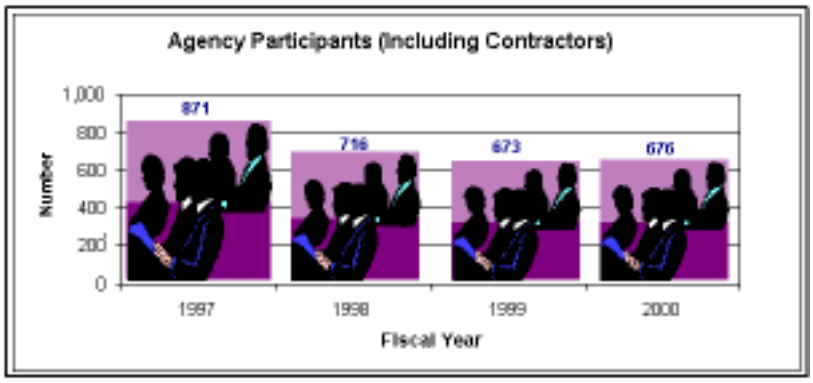
Meeting notices and registration will be handled via the Internet. For more information or to register, please visit the Metrology and Accreditation Web sites at **http://www.sandia.gov/metrology/mchome.html** and **http://www.sandia.gov/accreditation**, or contact Don Ragland, 505-845-9623, **dragla@sandia.gov**, or Beverly Adams, 865-241-0176, **adamsbm@y12.doe.gov**.

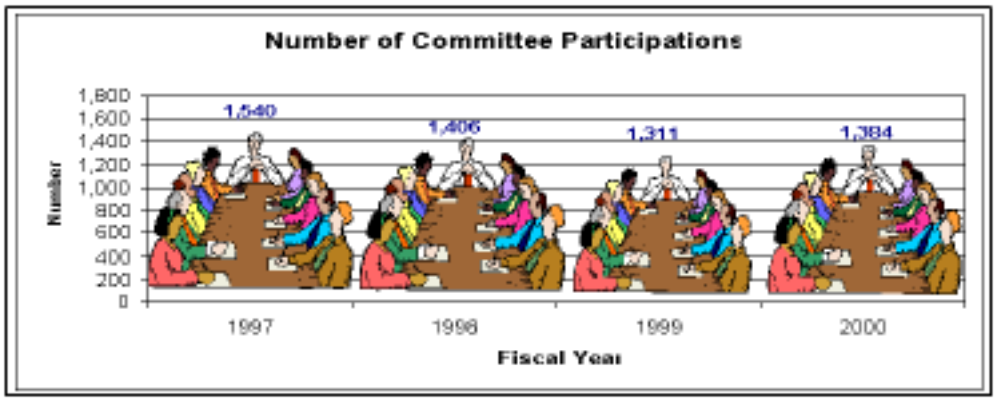
The Fiscal Year 2000 OMB A-119 Report—In a Nutshell

Public Law (PL) 104-113 [15 USC 272(b), March 7, 1996], *The National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995*, and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-119 (OMB A-119), *Federal Participation in the Development and Use of Voluntary Standards*, describe the policy of the Federal Government regarding (a) adoption and use of voluntary (i.e., non-Government) standards in lieu of developing Government (i.e., DOE) standards, and (b) participation of Government employees in the activities on non-Government standards bodies. The policy outlined in PL 104-113 and OMB A-119 is reflected in DOE Order 252.1, *Technical Standards Program*. As discussed in Order 252.1, participation by Department employees and contractors in the activities on non-Government standards (NGS) bodies is encouraged. DOE participation in the standards-related activities of NGS bodies provides incentives and opportunities to establish standards that serve national needs. Adoption and use of non-Government standards, where appropriate, eliminates the costs associated with developing DOE standards.

PL 104-113 and OMB A-119 require DOE and other Federal agencies to provide periodic reports on agency participation in non-Government standards activities. Every fiscal year, the DOE Standards Executive provides the OMB with a detailed report on the status of DOE participation in NGS bodies. This report, which is compiled from information provided by participating DOE employees and contractors, is published in DOE-TSL-4, *Directory of DOE and Contractor Personnel Involved in non-Government Standards Activities*. The results for three categories of activity over the past four years are presented here in graphical form. The data show a steady increase in the identified use of voluntary consensus standards and an initial decline followed by a leveling off of agency participation in NGS activities and committees.



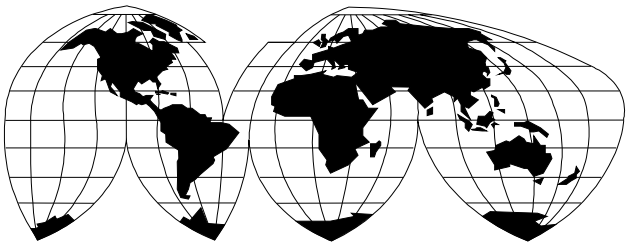




New Resource for Construction Safety & Health

A new Web site on construction safety and health has been launched, Edward C. Sullivan, president of the Building and Construction Trades Department (BCTD), has announced. The site, the Electronic Library of Construction Occupational Safety and Health, or eLCOSH, posted August 1, 2000, will provide materials on a wide range of topics from the United States and abroad at **http://www.elcosh.org**. eLCOSH will provide a wide range of materials on construction safety and health. The goal is to improve safety and health for construction workers by making such information easier to obtain than in the past.

The World of Standards



NEWS BRIEFS

Three Accrediting Bodies Recognized

The National Cooperation for Laboratory Accreditation (NACLA) announced on October 2, 2000, its formal recognition of three U.S. accrediting bodies (ABs): the American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA); the International Council of Building Officials Evaluation Service (ICBO ES); and the National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program (NVLAP). The three are the charter signatories of the NACLA mutual recognition arrangement (MRA). Under the MRA, each AB will treat the accreditations, test reports and certificates of the other signatories as technically equivalent. The MRA was signed by representatives of Lucent Technologies, the U.S. Federal Highway Administration, the Chair of the NACLA Recognition Committee, and leaders of the three ABs. The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and NACLA have a memorandum of understanding that provides for NIST to rely on NACLA-recognized laboratory accrediting bodies in support of its role as designating authority in mutual recognition arrangements between the U.S. and other regions of the world. For more information, contact Joe O'Neil, NACLA Administrator, at 301-975-8406, **cjoneil@nist.gov**.

Environmental Progress and *Process Safety Progress* Now Available On-Line

An important new feature has been added to the AIChE Web site with the on-line versions of *Environmental Progress* and *Process Safety Progress*. Haeja Han, AIChE's associate publisher, noted, "The PDF version offers linking capabilities that allow the subscribers to immediately tap into the topics of their interest in the environment- and safety-related areas available in the database." The digital version of *Environmental Progress* is available from the Spring 1999 issue forward. *Process Safety Progress* went on-line beginning with the Winter 1999 issue. Both can be found at **http://www.aiche.org/publications** and can currently be accessed free of charge. The Internet version gives instant access to the articles appearing in AIChE's specialized magazines as soon as they are published.

Environmental Progress reports on technological advances in all aspects of the environment, including abatement, control, and containment of effluents and emissions within compliance standards. The special Summer 2000 issue focuses on Life Cycle Assessment and aims to help readers better understand the life-cycle concept and the environmental management tools that are being developed to implement life cycle assessment. *Process Safety Progress* deals with the latest developments in chemical and hydrocarbon process safety, risk management, regulatory compliance, loss prevention, and health.

MARSSIM Updated

The October 18, 2000, Federal Register (Volume 65, Number 202) contains the following notice that may be of interest to many of *The Standards Forum* readers.

Page 62531-62533, Multi-Agency Radiation Survey and Site Investigation Manual, Revision 1; Notice: "SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Defense (DoD), U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) are announcing the availability for use of the August 2000 Revision 1, of the December 1997 "Multi-Agency Radiation Survey and Site Investigation Manual" (MARSSIM). In response to comments received on the December 1997 MARSSIM, the MARSSIM has been updated to reflect resolution of these comments and to make minor editorial corrections. The changes are simple clarifications and corrections of errata, and they do not change the methods originally described. Therefore, the purpose of this new Federal Register Notice is to inform the public that the newly revised MARSSIM is available. The MARSSIM provides information on planning, conducting, evaluating, and documenting environmental radiological surveys of surface soils and building surfaces for demonstrating compliance with regulations."

Revision of the NACLA *Accreditation Body Recognition Procedure*

The NACLA *Accreditation Body Recognition Procedure* was revised (revision C) effective August 31, 2000.

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News Briefs (Continued from Previous Page)

The purpose of the document is to establish the procedure used by NACLA to recognize Accreditation Bodies (ABs) and for ABs to maintain their recognition agreements. This procedure creates a mechanism for establishing the equivalence of the operation of calibration and testing laboratory accreditation programs, with the effect that laboratories accredited by such bodies will be considered to have demonstrated equivalent competence.

For more information, check out the NACLA news at **http://ts.nist.gov/ts/htdocs/210/nacla/index.htm**.

OSHA Unveils Partnership Web Site

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has launched a new page on its Web site that highlights successful safety and health partnerships and encourages new voluntary partnerships in order to reduce workplace injuries and illnesses.

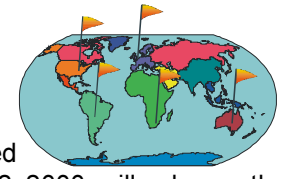
Under the banner of "Partner with OSHA: New Ways of Working," the new site describes nearly 80 current partnerships. Many of these joint ventures focus on areas addressed in OSHA's Strategic Plan. The site also provides valuable information on public/private collaborations and a step-by-step guide on how to initiate new partnerships.

Program partners may receive outreach, training, technical assistance, and onsite consultation services. Partnerships also benefit employers and employees by reducing workplace injuries and decreasing workers' compensation premiums.

OSHA incentives offered to partnering employers include focused inspections limited to only the most serious hazards, reduced fines, no penalties or citations for other-than-serious violations, and new opportunities to share safety and health program expertise and resources.

The new partnership page is available on OSHA's Web site at: **http://www.osha-slc.gov/fso/vpp/partnership/index.html**.

An International Arrangement to Enhance Trade



An international arrangement, signed in Washington, D.C., on November 2, 2000, will enhance the acceptance of technical data accompanying goods crossing national borders. The Arrangement, which involves 37 member bodies from 28 economies represented at the General Assembly of the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC), means that goods tested in one country by a laboratory that is accredited under a signatory to the Arrangement, will be accepted by other signatories. This is a major step towards reducing or eliminating the need for retesting of goods by the importing country. Retesting has been considered to be a major barrier to international trade.

ILAC believes that the next crucial step is for governments to take advantage of the Arrangement by using it to further develop and enhance trade agreements. A cornerstone of the new Arrangement, which enters into force on January 31, 2001, is the utilization of existing or developing regional arrangements established in the Americas, the Asia Pacific region, Europe and Southern Africa. For more information, check out the ILAC Web site at **http://www.ilac.org/**.

The U.S. Celebrates World Standards Day

The 2000 observance of World Standards Day was held on Wednesday, October 18, 2000, at the National Geographic Society Museum in Washington, D.C. The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) jointly chaired the 2000 World Standards Day Planning Committee.

Since 1990 the U.S. standards community has organized an annual event to observe World Standards Day, so designated by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC). The U.S. celebration pays tribute to the value of standardization to the national economy and the consuming public. The event is sponsored by some 50 trade associations, professional societies, standards development organizations, corporations, and government agencies.

Opening remarks, delivered to more than 340 attendees, were presented by co-sponsors Mark Hurwitz, President and CEO of ANSI, and Raymond Kammer, Director, NIST. Other greetings were made by Lawrence Eicher, Secretary General of ISO, and Malcolm O'Hagan, President of National Electrical Manufacturers Association, NEMA, which served as the host organizer for this year's event.

The event included a reception, dinner, and presentation of the Ronald H. Brown Standards Leadership Award to Mr. J. W. Marriott, Jr., Chairman and CEO of Marriott International, Inc.

Presentation of the Paper Contest Award was made by Michael Morrell, President of the Standards Engineering Society (SES). The first place prize was awarded to Elaine Baskin and Ken Krechmer, International Center for Standards Research. The second place winner was Dr. Stephen Oksala (Unisys), and third place went to Dr. Ranganath K. Shastri (Dow Chemical Company).

Joint Session Enhances ICSP-GMC Cooperation

By Rick Serbu, Manager, DOE Technical Standards Program

A joint meeting of the ANSI Government Members Council (GMC) and U. S. Government Interagency Committee on Standards Policy (ICSP) was held at the Ronald Regan Building in Washington, D.C. on Tuesday, October 17, 2000, in conjunc-

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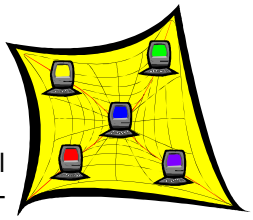
tion with World Standards Week. Dr. Belinda Collins, Director of NIST's Office of Standards Services and Chair of the ISCP, and Mary McKiel, of EPA and Chair of the GMC, conducted the meeting. Dick Black, the DOE Standards Executive, and Rick Serbu, the DOE alternate, attended on behalf of DOE. The intent of the joint session was to achieve cross-fertilization of information on standards policy and government participation in standards activities between the ICSP and GMC and to enhance the cooperation already achieved by having several members participating in both groups. The key agenda items included a discussion on the details of the input for the FY2000 Annual OMB Report. The ICSP will use a standardized on-line reporting format accessed by password at the NIST Web site. Several refinements on reporting new standards and standards use were developed. The joint session also discussed the newly approved ANSI National Standards Strategy (NSS—available at the ANSI web site). The GMC cited the need for the ANSI Executive Standards Committee, and noted that participation was limited to dues paying members, which will exclude some federal agencies this year. Also discussed were means to promote the NSS with the pending new Federal administrations, perhaps through pursuing written recognition from the agency senior executive on the NSS. The use of "briefing bullets" to report agency activities in very condensed form was also recommended.

An ANSI Counsel representative discussed an extremely interesting and challenging legal precedent where a standards developer could be held liable for the adequacy of its standards (e.g., in the event of an accident) even though the developer's standard in question was not used, or even misapplied. The specific situation involves a diving accident which occurred in a swimming pool that was not in conformance with an existing design standard and subsequent changes, and the standard was not used or even cited in the construction of the swimming pool. The accident involved a head-first, streamlined, high energy, unmitigated dive into the slant wall of a non-standard pool from a non-standard diving board. Such a precedent and the accompanying liability could conceivably have a chilling effect on the development of voluntary safety standards that provide the basis of the U.S. system. ANSI and other standards organizations intend to file briefs on the impact of such a precedent as "friends of the court." More information on this situation should be available in the near future.

Web Site Features IICT Handbook



As overlap of interests and functional processes in the various Federal agencies becomes increasingly obvious, the Technical Standards Program has continued to promote interagency cooperation in activities such as the Federal Technical Standards Workshop. The proliferation of agency Web sites has also opened up the ability to share information across agencies. Accordingly, the Interagency Intelligence Committee on Terrorism (IICT) has a Web site that contains information that may be of interest to some Technical Standards Program participants (e.g., the Occurrence Reporting and Chemical Safety Topical Committee).

The site features the *Chemical/Biological/Radiological Incident Handbook*, October 1998, produced by the Chemical, Biological and Radiological (CBRN) Subcommittee. The IICT and its seven subcommittees provide an interagency forum for coordination and cooperation on a wide spectrum of counterterrorism and antiterrorism issues. The current edition of the handbook contains information pertaining to radiological incidents and provides information on new and evolving trends necessary to understanding and dealing with changing counterterrorism issues. The handbook supplies information for use in making a preliminary assessment when a possible chemical, biological agent or radiological material is suspected. Chemical, biological, and radiological material as well as industrial agents can be dispersed in the air we breath, the water we drink, or on surfaces we physically contact. Dispersion methods may be as simple as placing a container in a heavily used area, opening a container, using conventional (garden)/commercial spray devices, or as elaborate as detonating an improvised explosive device.

To see the handbook in its entirety, visit the Handbook Web site at **http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/AEOD/ER/HANDBOOK/CBR_hdbk.html**.

DOE Meteorological Coordinating Council Meets in Las Vegas

On October 17, 2000, Jeff Feit of the Department Of Energy Technical Standards Program staff attended a meeting of the DOE Meteorological Coordinating Council (DMCC) in Las Vegas, Nevada. The meeting was jointly sponsored by three groups, the DMCC, the Subcommittee on Consequence Assessment and Protective Actions (SCAPA), and the Nuclear Utility Meteorological User Group (NUMUG) to foster coordination and cooperation, particularly in the emergency preparedness areas.

The Technical Standards Program was invited to make a presentation on topical committees and to network with representatives of both the private sector and other government agencies. Mr. Feit's presentation was well received and a healthy exchange of information ensued. Many of the meeting's attendees were unaware that the Department of Energy had such an infrastructure in place and were pleased to know that the agency promoted interaction through topical committees.

Following the Technical Standards Program report, Mr. Carl Mazzola, Meteorological Topical Committee chairman, reinforced Mr. Feit's statements and gave a detailed presentation on how topical committees operate. You may obtain further information about this meeting by contacting Jeff Feit at 301-903-3927, **Jeffrey.Feit@eh.doe.gov**.

Upcoming Meetings

December 5–6, 2000

Department of Energy Integrated Safety Management Workshop

DoubleTree Hotel – Pasco, Washington

Theme: *Sharing Achievements, Successes and Challenges*

Sponsored by the DOE Richland Operations Office, the DOE Office of River Protection, and major Hanford Site contractors as a forum on ISM experiences and Departmental expectations. Topics will include worker and management roles in work planning, hazards identification/control, feedback and improvement, and performance. For more information, visit the ISM Web site at **http://tis-nt.eh.doe.gov/ism/**.

February 6–8, 2001

Construction Safety Council—11th Annual Construction Safety Conference & Exposition

Donald E. Stephens Convention Center (formerly the Rosemont Convention Center) – Rosemont, Illinois

Theme: *Breaking New Ground 2001*

More than 70 sessions will be offered, including a silica "mini-conference," tracks on electrical safety and highway work zone risk control, and professional development sessions. For more information visit the conference Web site at **http://www.buildsafe.org/2001conf.htm**.

March 4–8, 2001

American Nuclear Society Robotics Division - Year 2001 Topical Meeting

Sheraton Seattle Hotel & Towers – Seattle, Washington

This will be the premier meeting of the year for issues associated with robotics and remote handling. In addition to a full slate of technical papers, there will be a vendor show and technical tours. For more information, visit the conference Web site at **http://www.ans-ews.com/robotics01.html**.

April 22–26, 2001

American Institute of Chemical Engineers—Spring Annual Conference

George R. Brown Convention Center – Houston, Texas

The meeting will be held in conjunction with the Process Industries and PetroChem Expositions and will feature rapid and effective advancement of technologies. There will be 10 Topical Conferences, short courses, and social networking. For more information visit the conference Web site at **http://www.aiche.org/conferences/spring/**.

Note that here will be a session on "Processes for Preparation of Weapons-Grade Plutonium for use as Mixed-Oxide Fuel." This will be the first time that the issue of MOX fuel has been addressed at the chemical engineering conference, although MOX fuel has been used in European commercial reactors for many years. The U.S. program, managed by the Department of Energy, will use weapons-grade plutonium derived directly from dismantled surplus nuclear weapons.

For more information on the MOX session, contact Donald Spellman, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, 865-574-7891, **spellmandj@ornl.gov**.

June 10–13, 2001

2001 International Containment & Remediation Technology Conference and Exhibition

Florida State University

Radisson Hotel Universal Orlando – Orlando, Florida

This conference is jointly sponsored by the U.S. DOE, U.S. EPA, U.S. Navy, DuPont, NASA, and The IT Group. The program will include information on technology deployment (case studies), solutions to contaminated sites, lessons learned, and technology transfer. For more information, check out the conference Web site at **http://www.containment.fsu.edu/**.

June 17–21, 2001

2001 ANS Annual Meeting

Midwest Express Convention Center & Hyatt Regency Milwaukee – Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Theme: *Safety Culture and its Relationship to Economic Value in the Competitive Market: A Global Perspective Worldwide*

There will be two embedded topical meetings: (1) 11th Annual Safety Analysis Working Group (SAWG) Workshop and (2) Nuclear Safety Goals and Safety Culture. For more information, visit the ANS Web site at: **http://www.ans.org/**.

December 12–14, 2001

XXVIth International Symposium of the International Section for the Prevention of Occupational Risks in the Construction Industry

Paris, France

Theme: *Dynamic Management of Health and Safety in the Construction Industry: Practicable Solutions*

For more information, contact **comaiss@infonie.fr**; 33-1-40-05-38-02.